

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Applicant respectfully requests that this listing of claims replace the prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

establishing a first synchronization session between a first synchronization device and a second synchronization device,

defining automatically based on the first synchronization session and storing role information on the first synchronization device, which indicates whether the first synchronization device should serve as a synchronization client or a synchronization server in at least one subsequent synchronization session,

checking said role information for the first synchronization device in response to a need for initiating a second synchronization session between the first synchronization device and the second synchronization device, and

initiating the second synchronization session from the first synchronization device in accordance with said role information, wherein a client initialization message to initiate the second synchronization session with a synchronization server is transmitted from the first synchronization device in response to synchronization client being defined in the role information as the role of the first synchronization device ~~[[or]]and~~ a server initialization message to ~~initiate~~alert the second synchronization ~~session with device to send a~~ synchronization-client initialization message is transmitted from the first synchronization device in response to synchronization server being defined in the role information as the role of the first synchronization device.

2. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a client initialization message for initiating the first synchronization session is transmitted from the first synchronization device to the second synchronization device,

an error message is received from the second synchronization device,

a server initialization message is transmitted from the first synchronization device to the second synchronization device in response to the error message, and

synchronization server is stored, during the role information storing, as the role information for the first synchronization device.

3. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a client initialization message for initiating the first synchronization session is transmitted from the first synchronization device to the second synchronization device,

an acknowledgement is received from the second synchronization device, in response to receiving the acknowledgement, synchronization client is stored, during the role information storing, as the role information for the first synchronization device.

4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the role information is associated with the second synchronization device on the basis of the identifier of the second synchronization device, and

the role information associated with the identifier of the second synchronization device is searched from the stored role information in the first synchronization device in response to a need to initiate a second synchronization session with the second synchronization device.

5. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said role information is application-specific so that separate role information is stored in the device for each application and/or application profile in the device.

6. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the default value of said role information is synchronization client, and the role information is not stored if synchronization client is defined as the role of the device.

7. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said role information is stored in a third device that is other than said first or second device.

8. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein storing mapping information describing the sameness of data items only on the device, the role of which is synchronization server.

9. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data being synchronized is one of the following: user data, device data.

10. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first synchronization device and the second synchronization device support the SyncML synchronization markup language standard.

11. (Currently amended) A synchronization system comprising at least a first synchronization device and a second synchronization device, wherein the first synchronization device and the second synchronization device are configured to set up a first synchronization session,

at least one synchronization device is configured to automatically define based on the first synchronization session and store role information that indicates whether the first synchronization device should serve as a synchronization client or a synchronization server in at least one subsequent synchronization session,

at least one synchronization device is configured to check said role information in response to a need for initiating a second synchronization session between the first synchronization device and the second synchronization device, and

the first synchronization device is configured to initiate the second synchronization session in accordance with said role information, wherein the first synchronization device is configured to ~~initiate the second synchronization session with a synchronization server by transmitting~~ transmit a client initialization message in response to synchronization client

being defined in the role information as the role of the first synchronization device ~~[[or]]and~~ the first synchronization device is configured to ~~initiate the second synchronization session with a synchronization client by transmitting~~transmit a server initialization message to alert the second synchronization device to send a client initialization message in response to synchronization server being defined in the role information as the role of the first synchronization device.

12. (Original) A synchronization system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said role information is stored in a third device that is other than said first or second device.

13. (Currently amended) A synchronization device that is configured to set up a first synchronization session with a second synchronization device, wherein the synchronization device is configured to automatically define based on the first synchronization session and store role information that indicates whether the synchronization device should serve as a synchronization client or a synchronization server in at least one subsequent synchronization session,

the synchronization device is configured to check said role information in response to a need for initiating a second synchronization session with the second synchronization device, and

the synchronization device is configured to initiate the second synchronization session in accordance with said role information, wherein the synchronization device is configured to ~~initiate the second synchronization session with a synchronization server by transmitting~~transmit a client initialization message in response to synchronization client being defined in the role information as the role of the synchronization device ~~[[or]]and~~ the synchronization device is configured to ~~initiate the second synchronization session with a synchronization client by transmitting~~transmit a server initialization message to alert the second synchronization device to send a client initialization message in response to synchronization server being defined in the role information as the role of the synchronization device.

14. (Previously presented) A synchronization device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the synchronization device is configured to transmit to the second synchronization device a client initialization message for initiating the first synchronization session,

the synchronization device is configured to receive an error message from the second synchronization device,

the synchronization device is configured to transmit to the second synchronization device a server initialization message in response to the error message, and

the synchronization device is configured to store, during the role information storing, synchronization server as the role information for the synchronization device.

15. (Original) A synchronization device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the synchronization device is configured to store mapping information describing the sameness of data items only if synchronization server is defined as its role.

16. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium encoded with a computer program comprising:

a program code portion for controlling a synchronization device to set up a first synchronization session with a second synchronization device,

a program code portion for controlling the synchronization device to automatically define based on the first synchronization session and store role information that indicates whether the synchronization device should serve as a synchronization client or a synchronization server in at least one subsequent synchronization session,

a program code portion for controlling the synchronization device to check said role information in response to a need for initiating a second synchronization session with the second synchronization device, and

a program code portion for controlling the synchronization device to initiate the second synchronization session in accordance with said role information, wherein the program code portion is adapted for controlling the synchronization device to initiate the

~~second synchronization session with a synchronization server by transmitting~~transmit a client initialization message in response to synchronization client being defined in the role information as the role of the synchronization device ~~[[or]]and~~ and the program code portion is adapted for controlling the synchronization device to ~~initiate the second synchronization session with a synchronization client by transmitting~~transmit a server initialization message ~~to alert the second synchronization device to send a client initialization message~~ in response to synchronization server being defined in the role information as the role of the synchronization device.

17. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a role is selected for the first synchronization device for the second synchronization session on the basis of said role information; and the second synchronization session is initiated from the first synchronization device in accordance with the selected role.

18. (Previously presented) A synchronization system as claimed in claim 11, wherein a role is selected for the first synchronization device for the second synchronization session on the basis of said role information; and the second synchronization session is initiated from the first synchronization device in accordance with the selected role.

19. (Previously presented) A synchronization device as claimed in claim 13, wherein a role is selected for the synchronization device for the second synchronization session on the basis of said role information; and the second synchronization session is initiated from the synchronization device in accordance with the selected role.

20. (Previously presented) A computer readable storage medium as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a program code portion for selecting a role for the synchronization device for the second synchronization session on the basis of said role information; and wherein the second synchronization session is initiated from the synchronization device in accordance with the selected role.

21. (Previously presented) A synchronization system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first synchronization device is configured to transmit to the second synchronization device a client initialization message for initiating the first synchronization session,

the first synchronization device is configured to receive an error message from the second synchronization device,

the first synchronization device is configured to transmit to the second synchronization device a server initialization message in response to the error message, and

the first synchronization device is configured to store, during the role information storing, synchronization server as the role information for the synchronization device.

22. (Previously presented) A synchronization system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first synchronization device is configured to store mapping information describing the sameness of data items only if synchronization server is defined as its role.

23. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a memory including computer program code; and

at least one processor, wherein the memory and the computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus at least to

set up a first session with a second apparatus and automatically define, based on the first session, and store role information that indicates whether the apparatus should serve as a synchronization client or a synchronization server in at least one subsequent session,

check said role information in response to a need for initiating a second session with the second apparatus, and

initiate the second session in accordance with said role information, wherein the apparatus ~~transmits~~ is configured to transmit a client initialization message to a synchronization server in response to synchronization client being defined in the role information as the role of the apparatus ~~[[or]]~~ and the apparatus ~~transmits~~ is configured to transmit a server initialization message to alert the second apparatus to send a

~~synchronization client~~ initialization message in response to synchronization server being defined in the role information as the role of the apparatus.

24. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the apparatus is configured to transmit to the second apparatus a client initialization message for initiating the first session,

the apparatus is configured to receive an error message from the second apparatus,

the apparatus is configured to transmit to the second apparatus a server initialization message in response to the error message, and

the apparatus is configured to store, during the role information storing, synchronization server as the role information for the apparatus.

25. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein a client initialization message for initiating the first session is transmitted from the apparatus to the second apparatus,

an acknowledgement is received from the second apparatus,

in response to receiving the acknowledgement, synchronization client is stored during the role information storing as the role information for the apparatus.

26. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the role information is associated with the second apparatus on the basis of the identifier of the second apparatus, and

the role information associated with the identifier of the second apparatus is searched from the stored role information in the apparatus in response to a need to initiate a second session with the second apparatus.

27. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said role information is application-specific so that separate role information is stored in the apparatus for each application and/or application profile in the apparatus.

28. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the default value of said role information is synchronization client, and the role information is not stored if client is defined as the role of the apparatus.

29. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein said role information is stored in a third apparatus that is other than said apparatus or second apparatus.

30. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein storing mapping information describing the sameness of data items only on the apparatus, the role of which is synchronization server.

31. (Currently amended) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the apparatus and the second apparatus support the SyncML synchronization markup language standard.

32. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the apparatus is a mobile station.